AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as indicated hereafter.

Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A ~~medical device~~ wound dressing for treating a pathology in a portion of a living organism, comprising, at least one ~~conductive~~ layer of conformable, conductive fabric having a surface resistance of less than about 1000 Ohms/cm^2,

wherein the at least one ~~conductive~~ layer of conformable, conductive fabric comprises ~~a resistance less than about 1000 ohms/cm^2~~;

~~and~~ a biologically inert polymer ~~which is at least partially~~ uniformly coated with a metal or a metal alloy; and

wherein the ~~medical device~~ wound dressing is configured to passively lower the pathology's electrical potential by an amount effective to promote healing ~~when the at least one conductive layer is positioned to conductively bridge healthy surfaces surrounding the pathology~~.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Currently amended) The wound dressing ~~medical device~~ of Claim 1, wherein the polymer is nylon, polyethylene, polypropylene, wool, silk, cotton, or elastomers.

4. (Currently amended) The wound dressing ~~medical device~~ of Claim 1, wherein the metal is selected from the group consisting of silver, gold aluminum, nickel, tin, stainless steel, copper, and combinations thereof, and the metal alloy is selected from the group consisting of

aluminum-copper, aluminum-magnesium, copper-gold, copper-nickel, copper-palladium, gold-palladium, gold-silver, iron-nickel and silver-palladium, and combinations thereof.

5. (Canceled).

6. (Currently amended) The wound dressing ~~medical device~~ of Claim 1, wherein the wound dressing ~~medical device~~ is an orthotic appliance.

7. (Currently amended) The wound dressing ~~medical device~~ of Claim 1, wherein the wound dressing ~~medical device~~ is a dental appliance.

8. (Currently amended) The wound dressing ~~medical device~~ of Claim 1[[5]], wherein the wound dressing is shaped for a use around external fixture pin structures.

9. (Currently amended) The wound dressing ~~medical device~~ of Claim 1[[5]], wherein the wound dressing is shaped for a use around ostomy sites.

10. (Currently amended) The wound dressing ~~medical device~~ of Claim 1[[5]], wherein the wound dressing is shaped for a use around tracheostomy sites.

11. (Currently amended) The wound dressing ~~medical device~~ of Claim 1[[5]], wherein the wound dressing is shaped for a use around catheter sites.

12. (Currently amended) The wound dressing ~~medical device~~ of Claim 1[[5]], wherein the wound dressing is shaped for packing body cavities.

13. (Currently amended) The wound dressing ~~medical device~~ of Claim 1, wherein the device has a tubular shape.

14. (Currently amended) The wound dressing ~~medical device~~ of Claim 13, wherein the tubular shape is incorporated into a wound drain.

15. (Currently amended) A medical device, comprising,

a) a wound dressing comprising more than two layers of a fibrous material;

wherein the material contains nonmetalized fibers and fibers that are at least partially coated with a metallic material to yield metalized fibers, each layer being joined to an adjacent layer and having a ratio of metalized fibers to nonmetalized fibers; and

b) an appliance, wherein the wound dressing is incorporated into the appliance such that the layers of the wound dressing ~~from~~ form a gradient of metalized fiber to nonmetalized fiber ratios, the highest ratio layer capable of being placed in contact with a wound site.

16. (Original) The medical device of Claim 15, wherein the appliance is shaped for a use selected from the group consisting of orthopedic, dental, catheter, packing a body cavity, an ostomy site, a tracheostomy site, and around external fixture pin structures.

17. (Original) The medical device of Claim 15 wherein the appliance has a tubular shape.

18. (Previously presented) The medical device of Claim 17 wherein the appliance is a wound drain.

19. (Currently amended) A method for treating a portion of the body of a living organism, comprising,

a) applying a ~~medical device~~ wound dressing to a pathology of a portion of the body of a living organism, wherein the ~~medical device~~ wound dressing comprises at least one layer of ~~conductive material~~ conformable, conductive fabric;

wherein the ~~conductive material~~ conformable, conductive fabric comprises a surface resistance less than about 1000 ohms/cm^2;

wherein the ~~conductive material~~ conformable, conductive fabric is at least partially composed of a biologically inert polymer ~~which is at least partially~~ uniformly coated with a metal or metal alloy; and

wherein no external energy source or galvanic cell action is required to alter an electrodynamic process of a portion of the body of a living organism;

b) altering the electric parameters of the portion of the body without using an external energy source or galvanic cell action; and

c) lowering the electrical potential of the by conductively bridging healthy body surfaces surrounding the pathology with the medical device.

20. (Cancelled)

21. (Cancelled)

22. (Cancelled)

23. (Currently amended) A medical device comprising:

conformable, conductive fabric ~~a conductive layer~~ comprising a biologically inert polymer uniformly coated with an antimicrobial metal ~~and a conductor~~, wherein said ~~medical device~~ conformable, conductive fabric has a surface resistivity of less than about 1 Ohm/in^2 and interiorly shifts a pathology's maximum electrical resistance by an amount sufficient to induce an analgesic effect [[,]] when in contact with a pathology.

24. (Cancelled)

25. (Cancelled)

26. (Previously presented) The medical device of claim 23, wherein said shift stimulates healing.

27. (Previously presented) The medical device of claim 23, further comprising a moisture retaining layer.

28. (Currently amended) The medical device of claim 23, wherein said polymer is coated using a solution electroless plating process ~~conductive layer comprises a metal~~.

29. (Previously presented) The medical device of claim 28, wherein said metal comprises silver.

30. (Previously presented) The medical device of claim 23, wherein the conductive layer comprises a surface resistance of less than about 1000 ohms/cm^2.

31. (Currently amended) A medical device comprising:

at least one layer of ~~conductive~~ conformable, conductive fabric material having a surface resistance less than about ~~1000~~ 1 ohms/cm^2, wherein said at least one layer of ~~conductive~~ conformable, conductive fabric material comprises a biologically inert polymer and a conductor; and wherein said medical device induces an analgesic effect by interiorly shifting a pathology's maximum electrical resistance when applied to the pathology.

32. (Currently amended) A medical device comprising:

at least one layer of conductive material comprising at least two plies of a conductor, wherein the at least one layer of conductive material has a surface resistance less than about ~~1000~~ 1 ohms/cm^2, and wherein at least one of said at least two plies of a conductor comprises a biologically inert polymer, and wherein the device interiorly shifts a pathology's maximum electrical resistance when in conductive contact with the pathology by an amount effective to promote healing and induce an analgesic effect.

33. (Cancelled)

34. (New) The wound dressing of claim 23, wherein the fibers are electrolessly plated with a metal or metal alloy.

35. (New) The wound dressing of claim 34, wherein the metal or metal alloy comprises silver.

36. (New) The wound dressing of claim 1, wherein the surface resistance of the conformable, conductive fabric is less than about 1 Ohm/in^2.